

Correspondence Related to Franklin Peale and New Mint Equipment, 1833-1837

Correspondence primarily among Melter & Refiner Franklin Peale, Mint Directors Samuel Moore and Robert M. Patterson, and Secretary of the Treasury Levi Woodbury. Photocopies from the Craig Sholley library, generally originating from the National Archives, record group 104, entry 23 (Peale correspondence), although some of the material may be from the general correspondence files (National Archives, record group 104, entries 1 and 3). The correspondence relates to acquisition and implementation of the steam press, purchase of a portrait lathe, and development of the 1836 gold pattern dollar, 1836 Gobrecht silver dollar, and 1836 steam press token.

The following is included:

11/20/1833, Franklin Peale to Samuel Moore

4/29/1834, Franklin Peale to Samuel Moore

8/14/1834, Franklin Peale to Samuel Moore

6/16/1835, Franklin Peale to Samuel Moore. Peale is now back in the United States following extended travel to Europe.

6/30/1835, expense summary for Franklin Peale's travel to Europe

12/23/1835, quote for steam engine (\$2000) and related components (\$2600), incomplete, sender and receiver not clear from context

n.d., c. 1835, Mint Appropriation for 1836 including \$20,000 for steam press

1/6/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Hon W. Ewing, recommending Franklin Peale for the position of Melter & Refiner

1/7/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, recommending William E. DuBois for the position of Assistant Assayer

1/8/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Andrew Jackson, transmitting trial impressions of the Gobrecht dollar obverse

1/8/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, transmitting trial impressions of the Gobrecht dollar obverse

3/21/1836, Levi Woodbury to Robert M. Patterson, inquiring as to slow coinage production

3/23/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, transmitting samples of copper coin from the steam press

3/23/1836, Levi Woodbury to Robert M. Patterson, acknowledging receipt of gold dollars and steam press specimens

3/25/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, responding to Woodbury's inquiry of March 21.

3/28/1836, Rufus Tyler to Robert M. Patterson, related to press alterations

4/9/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, transmitting a second trial of the Gobrecht dollar

5/27/1836, Franklin Peale to Robert M. Patterson, related to hiring workmen from Merrick & Agnew

7/6/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Samuel Fisher, regarding purchase of portrait lathe

7/8/1836, Robert M. Patterson to Levi Woodbury, transmitting bullion deposit data requested by the president

7/21/1836, Robert M. Patterson to (possibly) Samuel Fisher, regarding funds for the portrait lathe

12/16/1836, Franklin Peale to Robert M. Patterson, notes new dies executed for Gobrecht dollar, struck this day, with samples sent to the Secretary of the Treasury

12/24/1836, Franklin Peale to Robert M. Patterson, regarding reduction of the Gobrecht half dollar dies

12/27/1836, Franklin Peale to Robert M. Patterson, regarding Merrick and Agnew milling machine

1/8/1837, Franklin Peale to Robert M. Patterson, criticizing the Gobrecht dollar as too medallic

7/25/1837, Merrick & Agnew to Robert M. Patterson, complaining about infringement of their technology

7/25/1837, Robert M. Patterson to Merrick & Agnew, responding to their complaint

* scan as single document

* install in Archive section

(Peale correspondence, RG 104, entry 235)

* do not scan yellow post-it notes

11/20/1833

J. P. Kelly

London Nov. 20

838

1833

17

2258 1/2

short

Shells of shells -

The effect
of the
various
places

James Moore

Account of H. J. Hall
in age with H. J.

London Nov 20th 1833

Dear Sir

It is with great satisfaction that I acknowledge the receipt of two letters received this day, the first dated Sep^r 30th and the other Oct^r 23rd as they contain an approval of the mode of proceeding that I have adopted the particulars of which I have already mentioned by letters already sent.

I beg you to feel assured that I have not, neither will I enter into any expensive engagements, as they have not neither do I anticipate that they will be required. With the exception of the apparatus for burning assay, and the samples of assay instruments, a notice of which I have sent you, no expenses have been incurred in France, and in England none will, or have been required, with also the exception of the cost of sample coins, a set of which I was obliged to purchase, on account of the silver which you wrote for, none having been coined for a long period, and there being no expectation of this coinage being resumed at present - to which is to be added only a few trifling fees to the workmen who attended me whilst

FEES PAID TO WORKMEN ASSISTING IN THE MAKING OF MEASUREMENTS
& DRAWINGS OF MINT EQUIPMENT.

employed in making measurements
and drawings of Mint machinery, -

These sample coins which are of pure
metal and much better execution than
the usual coins of circulation, with a
few others presented to me, by Mr. Morrison
the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint, will
be forwarded to you by the first convey-
ance and also, a collection of plaster
models and other heads, suit-
able for models for the devices of American
Coin, which Mr. Knapp desired me to select
for his use. They are from the collection
of Mr. Papey who is very celebrated in
this way, and are executed by the best
modern artists, and finally, an mod-
erate in cost, as you will perceive by
reference to the list which I enclose
according to your request.

I feel bound to assure you, that although
anxious to accomplish as speedily as
possible all, or as much as I can of the
great extent of matter entrusted to me,
that I am not disposed to leave anything
undone, nor in any way disappointed with
my prospects, some delay has already
taken place in regard to the printing, proc-
ess but in every other respect I have been
perfectly successful.

Mr. Bingley of the Royal Mint has not
given

me that opportunity that is desirable
for close examination of his assays, but
from various sources I have been
supplied with the lead and silver
batter employed by him, and the
measurement of his furnaces. &c.

He has since made the offer of every
information, and I have in consequence
addressed him a note that "I hope
will bring forth all that is possible."

His Laboratory has however been the
most reserved of any that I have
visited since my arrival on this
continent.

Mr Miles Chief Assayer of Goldsmiths
Hall, has been very kind and attentive
and given me every facility for visit
observing his processes. I have seen
Mr Muffle charged with 10% assays at
the same moment. I have the ^{result} measure
of his furnaces and muffles through.

Of Mr Percival Johnson I cannot
speak in too high terms, he has
been attentive and liberal to the utmost
extent, and I have derived much
useful information in his refinery
particularly of his method of separ-
ating Gold, Silver, and Palladium, by
a shortened process, I have made
memorandums, sketches and meas-

measurements of his fixtures to be
worked up, with other materials in
Paris during the coming winter.

The process of consolidating platinum
is also familiar to me as practised by
him. And I now feel perfectly confident
in ability to direct the formation of
repels of this metal if they should
be required in our future operations.
~~The proposal of this gentleman has also~~
been presented to my presence without
reserve.

On the multiplicity of occupations that
have engaged my attention, I have
not been able to make a pass personally.
Since I have been here, nor could I
do so without giving inconvenience and
deranging the usual operations of the
gentlemen of whom I have spoken.
As I will have the opportunity in Paris
during the winter I do not think it
advisable on that account to remain
here, especially as it is now more than
probable that I shall return at a future
time when the matter can be returned if
advisable.

The Machinery of the Mint of London
I have already told you is on the
grand scale. I have made sketches
and measurements that will occupy

pects:
I have
of 32
my objects
necessary
also
tended
to
the
it is
the mean
matter
iduously
which
nd
ly then
accounts
and for
which I
as of as
particulars
the first
I do
the

30 or 40 sheets of drawing paper. you
will perceive that this has given me
some labour, and will yet require much
more to work up. I shall begin
with the most useful, so that if my
time will not suffice for the show, the
most important will certainly be accom-
plished. Boulton and Watts were the
constructors of the condensing engine and
the machinery for condensing the
the power of the engine. I have been
permitted to see and make drawings
of this extremely curious machinery
which is the most remarkable, in con-
sequence of my being assured by officers
and workmen who have been twenty years
in the premises that they had not
seen it. A constant vacuum is
maintained to means of air pumps
worked by the Engine Cylinders
piston, apply the weight of the
atmosphere to the blow and recoil of
the piston in a manner that cannot
be explained, without drawings and
verbal description, it being complex
and consequently intricate.
A vacuum and the consequent pressure
of the atmosphere is also the means of
punching out the sheets. The engine
is so complex, slow and evidently so

inferior to the simple and efficient
application of power ^{in the finishing process} ~~devised~~ by Mr. Lefferts
that I could not think myself authorized
in appropriating the time necessary to make
drawings of it.

The hardening of edges and their transfer
forms a separate department from the
engraving in the Mint of London, the
most important part of which is that the
~~edges are completely finished by the~~
or finish the letters, borders, and all being
completed by this operation. This is also
the case in France. They are still
hardened by dipping, in consequence
of the imperfection of the
apparatus for hardening by the fountain
which they have but do not employ,
it is apparently embarrassed by faults in
the arrangement which have destroyed
its efficiency. I have pointed out the
~~the proper~~ construction and course and
hope to hear soon of the benefits arising
for it would be strange indeed, if that
which is so beneficial with us, should
not have the same value or produce
the same results here.

It would be unjust to withhold
a remark that I know you will feel
satisfaction in perusing, it is, that I
have not yet seen in any, either

France or England more carefully con-
ducted or apparently with more accu-
rate results than those made by Mr
G. B. M. and that he is quite as
advanced in the art as those who
have the highest reputation on this
continent.

I am now perfectly prepared to give
you the result of my comparison of
French and English ~~apocryphal~~
fabricators. There are numerous
makers of these instruments in London
but not one who has adopted any
fixed form or price. They always make
them to order, and I am satisfied if
left to their own discretion would be
more expensive and less neat than the
French. But at the same time I am
equally certain that by direction and
superintendence I could have one made
in a manner equal to the French and
at a cost something less. Say 500 francs.

I would therefore recommend if another
Scale is required, that I may be authorized
to direct its formation according to plans
that I could furnish, with the assurance
that it will be at least equal to the
excellent instrument made for Mr. P. M.
and at a less cost.

I immediately after my interview with

Mr. Arthur by which my prospects
concerning information of the Sulphuric acid
process was closed in England. I wrote
to Mr. Clay, changing despatches at St. P. &
giving him false information of my objects
and requesting him to make the necessary
inquiries as to the process then used
the facilities that would be extended
to me. So that I fully expect to
obtain the most direct & correct
information of the regular course of the process, and
shall therefore be prepared to go to
St. Petersburg in the Spring, if it is
desirable or so directed. In the mean
time you will perceive that I have
abundance of occupation in the matter
that I have prepared.

I shall continue as I have openly
shown the study of the process, in which
I candidly confess I have found
myself very deficient, especially when
you take into consideration the accurate
and technical knowledge required for
the scientific investigation in which I
have been engaged.

A tender of help has been made of a
set of winding machinery. The particulars
of which will be sent to you by the first
conveyance that I can find, as I do
not think it necessary to incur the

expense of the requisite papers by post.

The machinery offered is "an exact counterpart of help that in the Mint and equal to coining for the largest State in Europe."

I am perfectly aware that no purchase of machinery is contemplated, but the prices asked and other information relative to ^{it} ~~the~~ must have some interest for comparison and I feel it my duty to transmit these propositions when they are made. The offer embraces six cutting out presses four coining presses one dog multiplier three milling machines, three turning lathes, two pair 10 inch rollers and two pair of 12 inch rollers, "all complete with their different appertinances" and cost £216. They are "offered at a very considerable reduction" in help price.

I have thus touched on all the points necessary for your full information of my proceedings and occupations and hope for your approval.

Enclosed is a statement of expenses which confidently anticipates that they will fall within the estimate given but my private expenses will exceed my expectations, and am obliged to

ask, in consequence the promise that you
will pay to Mr. David P. Griffiths your
attorney, my portion of my salary,
that it may be convenient to spend
as I shall in all probability be obliged
to draw on him for a greater amount
than the War funds to meet.

In two days I leave London for
Paris.

~~My dear Mr. Garrison~~ I have the honor to be
respectfully your obliged
Franklin Pease

P.S. The estimate originally given I believe
includes all expenses of the character
designated in it, and I am not aware
that any other will be incurred or necessary
in France than the articles of which
made mention in my last letter from
Paris. It would be important to have
samples of the Muffles, Capels and
Stone ware vessels, used by Mr. Johnson
in London, but the cost of these are
quite inconsiderable, if any other
purchases are desirable you shall have
due notice of the amount requisite
as near as I can ascertain it.

J. Mrow

Paris April 29th 1834

Dear Sir

I had the pleasure to receive your last dated March 7th 1834 in answer to mine of the first of Jan^y, or the 22nd of this month, and I thank^{you} for the remittance that it advises me of. it did not come until my funds were entirely exhausted. I was, however, so fortunate as to find a friend who by a timely loan prevented any inconvenience. Enclosed are the receipts in the usual form.

I wrote on the 20th of November from London a long letter to you embracing many matters of interest, and full explanations of my operations and prospects. as you do not notice it I fear it has failed to reach you. I should be sorry if such were the fact, for its details were such as were required for a full understanding of my occupation, position and prospects besides other matters of moment.

No further information has been received from Mr. Olay, at St. Petersburg. so that my position as it regards that place remains the same as at the date of my last. My occupations have been such as to again, until lately, incessant application. I have now worked up all the matter prepared in England, and finished all my observations in the Mint of Paris, having carefully examined all its processes and noted every thing likely to be useful and am now engaged in practicing assaying in all the varieties that its Laboratory permits, both of Gold and Silver, as no ingots are received

MADE NOTES, WORKED IN ASSAY DEPT OF PARIS MINT

This does not give the usual varieties of the Oxide, but I do not feel at liberty to give a fee, to any private apayer, but will confine myself to this duty when it is the usual practice to make alloys in known proportions for the sake of practice, and when every facility is given without cost.

I have been forcibly struck from the first with the extensive scale upon which Silver is melted in the Mint of Paris. I have already told you that large ingots of wrought iron are used, and that they are capable of holding from 650 to 680 Killog^{ms} of Silver or 134,000 francs. They are coated with loam and the metal is dipped with wrought iron ladles, likewise coated with loam.

In your letter you desire to have one of these made, but I cannot venture to order it until you are aware of the price, which although they are beautifully made is enormous. The cost to the Director of the Mint of Paris, 500 francs and no doubt to us would be dearer, besides the cost of transportation from Lille where they are made to Paris, and from thence to Havre and New York. They last at the longest 50 meltings but the usual time is between 20 and 40. After they become too thin for further use they are sold to the persons who buy the precious metals for recovery from its usual waste forms, who treat them with a solution of Muriatic acid for the recovery of the Silver.

The only means of preventing the oxidation of the Copper while melting is to keep the surface covered with charcoal, the same remark is applicable to ladders with which it is dipped. Before my

departure for London I made false drawings of the
Furnaces, Crucibles, Utensils, and ingot moulds of
the Silver Melting Room.

The melting of Gold is as usual in Black Lead
Crucibles, and presents no features different from the
practice in England - except that charcoal is the
only fuel, and the fixtures are not so convenient
the moulds will bear no comparison to the beautiful
ones used there. They are very small $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide
and a scant $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep, and 17 to 19 inches long. The
ingots are cast with deep iron beads, in consequence
of the imperfect fitting of the moulds, which is
necessary, that the air may escape. All these faults
originate in the inefficient rolling apparatus, being
driven by horse power, and therefore not permitting
the ingots to be cast sufficiently large.

I am extremely sorry to hear of the accident to the
scale. I can attribute it to no other cause than the
Custom House officer in New York, in opening it. I can
scarcely believe that a heavy fall could have injured
it so much as it was packed with reference to
all the usual contingencies. I hope however that
no serious injury will result.

I enclose the estimate of a complete set of articles
for an assay Laboratory, by Mr Desmoulin who is
charged with this business by the Commission of
the Mint. I regret that it amounts to a sum
much larger than I anticipated, but it is very
complete and the heaviest item 200 francs for pure
Silver twice reduced from the chlorides is nearly an
exchange.

(Thus far I have had abundant results to show

for the time occupied in my researches, at present
I have only my practice in paying, and a diligent
study of the languages to occupy my time. and there-
fore look anxiously for the arrival of the Packet
(which has hitherto been long apart and uncertain).
We hope to receive my final instructions, and the
means for ~~provision~~ for their prosecution, or, at
all events, funds, for the apparatus of Fleming & Co.,
the articles in the enclosed list, and those for my
homeward journey. In the mean time I shall
continue to occupy myself as I have cheerfully
done, in the manner you have directed, in the
hope that I may hear finally before I can
reasonably expect an answer to this letter.

With much esteem I remain
your obliged

(Franklin Peck)

W. Peck
April 29. 1834

2464

8/14/1834

Paris, Augt 14th 1834.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 7th of July followed by that of the 14th were received at the interval of a week or few days since. I thank^{you} for the enclosure in the former, and enclose as usual the receipt for the amount. My thanks are also due for the amount of Salary paid to Mr L. P. Griffiths. His receipt is of course satisfactory, as he has a power of attorney in full for the transaction of all business in my name.

It is quite gratifying that an appropriation has been made for the printing press, we are thus assured of acquiring all that may be desired. Circumstances have occurred however since I had the pleasure to communicate to you that will in all probability change my proceedings in a material degree the particulars of which I will communicate in a few days. as at the present moment I am in doubt, these circumstances are most favorable. My opinion has also undergone some change relative to the Platinum vessels. When I wrote to you from London on this subject I was not aware that those made by Mr Réaumur in Paris were without seam or mark of a single piece, which appears to me a most important advantage. I have never been permitted to see the manufactory, and therefore do not in the present state of my knowledge feel very confident on the subject of their fabrication. Mr Réaumur although a kind and liberal man

reserved on this matter, and I shall not be able
to determine on the best course until I have had
further conversation with Mr Johnson of London.

I have sincere pleasure in informing you that
the trouging process has long since been familiar
to me, and in order to enable you to employ
this knowledge previous to my return if it
should be desirable, I copy the following the
following from my notes, observing that this
is the only process used in the extensive and
important department of the Mint of Paris
appropriated to the fabrication of medals. I will
also observe that this is the new bronze, now
beautiful and more durable than the Red
Bronze of the English, and that they are now
employed in striking some of the Bonaparte Series,
in which the following process is used.

R.S.

Medicis

Sal ammoniac

} equal Parts or 1 lb each.
(The whole being in powder and well mixed, a
paste is made of it and a portion of a glass of
Vinsiger.

When it is to be used take the size of a
pigeon's egg and add the remainder of the glass of
Vinsiger and two pints of water, boil the whole
a quarter of an hour, allow it to settle and
then decant the clear liquor.

Boil this clear solution and pour it boiling
upon the medals, continue the boiling five or six

minutes, decant the liquor and wash the medals with clear water.

The same liquor can only bronze fine or six times and that by adding a quarter of a glass of vinegar to each operation. The boiling must be performed in a copper Skillet. The medals must be arranged so as not to touch it, or one another. This is readily effected by means of pieces of wood, or a

metallic ^{copper} frame like a quinciron. The medals are then lightly wiped with a towel and rubbed with a soft brush and black lead, after which they are finished by a light blow of the pail, the number and force of which must be determined by the size and material of which they are composed.

This department has also been open to me without any charge, as are also the operations of Government. A trifling fee to the workmen is always expected, this is also the expense to which I shall be subjected in this department. My time is limited by the present packet I will therefore defer to you further information until the next letter which I will address to you in a few days.

I have not been able to acquire any further information relative to the reduction of Gold, but this will also be determined in a few days.

Of the period of my return nothing at the present moment can be decidedly fixed, in all that relates to parting, there is nothing to prevent my returning this fall, but the importance of the reduction of gold ore, has induced me to think of the propriety of a visit to the Mines of the Empire.

FEES
TO WORKMEN

which I am advised to do by all who have any
 knowledge on the subject, in which case it will be
 impossible for me to sail until too late in the
 season, a late fall voyage is to be avoided as
 that season may subject me to the misery and
 loss of time of a three months passage. I am

RECEIVED
 OCT 14 1834

RECEIVED
 OCT 14 1834

Doctor Samuel Moore
 Director of the Unit^d
 States of States
 Philadelphia

RECEIVED
 OCT 14 1834

View of the State of New York
 at New York

10

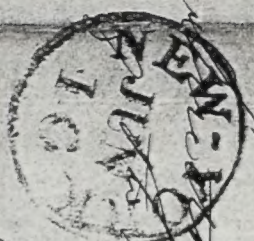
2466

Franklin Peale
 Aug. 14. 1834
 with friends of the University

therefore extremely glad to have the choice, and
 will be guided in my determination by the import-
 ance of the objects that may call for a longer
 detention.

I am very respectfully your obliger
 Franklin Peale
 Doctor Moore.

6/16/1835



Wm. L. Garrison
New York
Philadelphia

F. Parker

N. York

June 16. 1835

27/5-

New York June 16th 1835.

Dear Sir

I shall have the pleasure of paying my compliments to you tomorrow as I intend leaving this place by the 6 o'clock Brit Row line. A boisterous passage of 26 days has left me other feeling than that of mere pleasure. That it ^{has} at length terminated in my arrival here last evening by the Ship Kensington from Liverpool which place I left on the 1st of May, according to notice sent to you from London previous to my extended tour in Corvado.

The tour was made in company with Messrs Johnson, Palmer and Groat, with great pleasure to myself, and I hope to profit to the objects of my mission.

The shortness of time compels me to leave further particulars for personal communication.

I am most sincerely
your obliged

Franklin Peck

Dr Samuel Moore

Dr David Wood Director W. W. White in acct of the Franklin State Co.

May 4	Dr Cash paid for ...	4	25	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
May 10	Dr Cash ...	11	80	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
May 15	Dr Cash ...	142	50	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
May 20	Dr Cash ...	24	07	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
May 25	Dr Cash ...	143	25	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
May 30	Dr Cash ...	16	60	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
June 5	Dr Cash ...	9	25	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
June 10	Dr Cash ...	97	44	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
June 15	Dr Cash ...	14	60	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
June 20	Dr Cash ...	13	72	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
June 25	Dr Cash ...	26	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
June 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
July 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
July 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
July 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
July 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
July 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
July 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Aug 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Aug 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Aug 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Aug 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Aug 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Aug 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Sept 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Sept 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Sept 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Sept 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Sept 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Sept 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Oct 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Oct 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Oct 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Oct 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Oct 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Oct 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Nov 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Nov 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Nov 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Nov 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Nov 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Nov 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Dec 5	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Dec 10	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Dec 15	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Dec 20	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570
Dec 25	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	250
Dec 30	Dr Cash ...	-	-	1035	Dr Cash ...	570

6/30/1835

June 30 1835
Wm. White
Cash

23843 75
497 01

12/23/1835

Philadelphia December 23. 1835

We herewith present you with the drawings for a horizontal Steam Engine and Connecting Shafts and Gearing for two pair of Rolls also for the Housings, bed pieces, stands and connections for the same, similar in size, form and finish to those now in use at the U. S. mint in this city and the following are our Estimates for the same

1st A Horizontal Steam Engine with a Cast Iron bed Plate, a Cylinder 8 Inches diameter. 3 1/2 feet Stroke with metallic Packing, all the Joints to be accurately turned & ground, with a Governor, Stop valve 1/2 Stroke valve, a force lifting Pump as shown in the drawing, with two boilers 26 Inches diameter 20 feet long with a cast Iron fire front, Grate Bars &c delivered in Philadelphia - - - \$2000.00

2nd For 2 Set of Housing, bed Pieces, stands, and connections for two pair of Rolls also the Shafts and wheels for driving the same to connect with the Engine delivered in Philadelphia - - - \$2600.00


We will also engage to erect and Engine as above described at each of the Branch mints of S. Carolina

n.d., c. 1835

*Account Appropriation
for 1836.*

9

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf from an old book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor creases and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. A large, dark, curved mark, possibly a staple or a piece of tape, is visible near the top center of the page. The page is framed by dark borders on the left and right sides, which appear to be the edges of the book's binding or the scanner's frame. There is no text or other markings on the page.



This image shows a blank, aged, light brown paper cover or endpaper of a book. The paper has a textured, slightly mottled appearance with various creases, wrinkles, and small dark spots, indicating its age and handling. There is no text or other markings on the surface.

100

Mint of the United States for 1835.

For Compensation to the Officers
& Clerks of the Mint ————— \$ 13,900

For Compensation to Labourers em-
ployed in the various operations of the
Mint ————— 21,000

For incidental and Contingent ex-
penses and repairs, wastage, Cost of Ma-
chinery, for allowance for wastage in
Gold & Silver Coinage of the Mint, inclu-
ding \$16000 for amercement in 1835, ——— 51,100

For expenses incident to the introduc-
tion of new machinery and apparatus,
including the application of Steam-power
to Coinage, and improvements in the
melting and refining department 20,000

\$ 106,000

116/1836

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Jan. 6, 1836.

Dear Sir,

The late ~~Chief~~ ^{Refiner} of the Mint, Mr. Cloud, left his office at the close of the year; and Mr. Frank ~~Peale~~ ^{Peale} is nominated to the Senate as his successor. I had hoped that if any difficulty occurred as to this appointment, the letters of Dr. Moore and myself to the President and ^{Secretary} of the Treasury, ^{recommending Mr. Peale,} would be presented, and would show the ^{opportunities} ~~several~~ advantages which ~~Mr. Peale~~ ^{Mr. Peale} has had to acquire an acquaintance with the important and difficult ~~dependence~~ ^{duties} of the office to which he is named, and which have made him, in our judgment, eminently qualified to fill it. — Mr. Peale, who holds the place of Assistant Assayer of the Mint, was sent to Europe by the late Director, with ^{the} ~~commission~~ ^{authority} of the government, ~~with~~ for the purpose of acquiring information on all processes connected with coinage, ~~which it~~ ^{which it} might be useful to ~~introduce~~ ^{employ} here, but especially to make himself acquainted with the great improvements recently introduced in the very department for which he was nominated. He performed the duties of his mission with great skill and success, and we are already owe to him the introduction of a ^{much} greatly improved process for assaying, of a steam coining-press, ~~now~~ ^{now} completed, and of a new milling-machine. The department of ^{the} ~~Minting~~ ^{Minting} & Refining for new coin improvements are needed and contemplated but I almost despair of having them finished ~~if~~ ^{without} the direct agency of

Mr. Peabody himself. I feel therefore, I confess,
the greatest anxiety in the success of his nomi-
nation, which will commend itself to you, I am
sure, from the circumstances of its being, like
my own, wholly disconnected with party politics,
with which neither of us have ever intermeddled.

May I pray you to do me the favor of
recommending this case to the attention of Mr.
White and Col. Preston. It happens that
they and yourself are the only senators with
whom I can make any claims to personal
acquaintance.

I am, dear Sir, with great regard,

Your faithful friend,

P. M. Patterson.

To
Hon. W. Ewing.

P.S. In looking over my letter, I find
I have neglected to mention that the opera-
tions of the Mint are arrested in consequence
of the existing vacancy, that seven thousand
hands are idle, and that we
have about a million of uncoined bullion
in our vaults.

W. Ewing
U. S. Treasury
Feb 6 1877

Minst of U. S., Ph^a Jan. 7, '36

Sir,

The appointment of Mr. Peale gives rise to a vacancy in the office, which I think it important to have supplied, — the place of Assistant Assayer. I have to nominate for this situation Mr. William E. DuBois, and I am justified by your approbation and that of the President, for this appointment.

Mr. DuBois holds at present the situation of Director's Clerk, but as I have not required much service from him, he has been principally engaged, since I came into the office, in ~~supplying~~ performing the very duties to which I now wish him to be devoted. ~~He has been~~ Mr. Peale having been fully employed in making the designs for the new machinery, and superintending the workmen, the duty of assisting the Assayer, was assigned to Mr. DuBois, and he has ^{acquired} such practical knowledge and ^{experience} and expectations ^{consequently} in the process, as to enable him ^{to} recover him as fully qualified for the vacant place. I am also authorized to state that his appointment would have the full approbation of the Assayer, Mr. Jacob Eckfeldt.

It may not be improper to add that Mr. DuBois is a young gentleman of fine talents and education, who was making rapid progress at the bar, when a complaint of the throat, which affected his voice, obliged him to abandon his profession.

If my nomination of Mr. DuBois shall
meet the approbation of the President, (as required
by law,) there will then be a vacancy of a
clerkship, and I wish it to be filled, not
by a Directors Clerk, but by a new Treas-
urers Clerk, an assistant much wanted, -
indeed, in my judgment, indispensable to the
proper and legal performance of the duties
of the Treasurer's Department. - It is a sin-
gular anomaly in the ~~present~~ practice of the
mint up to this time, that all the weighing
and counting is done by the Chief Coiner, although
he is himself one of the officers most deeply
involved in these ^{and counting} weighings, according to which
he is charged and credited on the Treasurer's
books. The whole system of the Mint
accounts ~~needs~~ requires, on the other hand, that
the weighing and counting should be done
by the Treasurer. At present, neither the bul-
lion nor the coins are really ever in the
Treasurer's possession, nor does he really make
the payments of coins to depositors. Legally
he does all this, but practically it is a
fiction. In the progress of the ^{bullion} ~~mintal~~ ^{through}
the Mint it is, during part of the time, lost
sight of by the Treasurer, in consequence
a half private half official account kept
between the Minter and Coiner. Now all this
is wrong, and incompatible with a proper
system of accountability. To reform it,
nothing more is necessary than to require the

treasurer to perform really the duties lawfully
belonging to his office, and to order that no
officer of the Mint shall receive any bullion
except from the treasurer, or return any bullion
or coins except to the treasurer. For
this object I propose to give to the Treasurer
a new Clerk, to perform the duties of Money
and Teller, and to ^{receive} record all the transfers
of bullion received for coinage, and all the
transfers to and from the Minter and
the Coiner, and to weigh and count the
coins received from the Coiner and paid to
the depositors. — In the sake of being

in about this desirable object, without any
increase of expense to the government, I am
willing to ^{forego} ~~abandon~~ my claim to a special
clerk, and to depend upon the assistance
of those in the Treasury's office, and to that
which I may still ^{receive} ~~claim~~ from Mr. DeBour

Having had the charges here spoken of
in contemplation for some time, I have
sought also for a suitable person to fill
the clerkship in question, and, ~~from the~~
~~high class~~ I take the liberty of naming
Mr. James Maxwell for this place. The
is recommended to me, in the most confident
terms, by persons on whom I can rely, for his
competency and for his integrity and private
worth. The Treasurer, Gov. Fendley, and others
are run to say that he appears of this
nomination.

The salary of the ^{Assistant} Assayer will be \$1000,
is at present, that of the New Clerk \$800
the sum given in my estimate for the
Director's Clerk. The charges, therefore,
being no new expenses upon the Mint.

January 1836 -

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To/ Sec. of Treasury.
Jan. 7, 1836.

1/8/1836

To/

President of U. S.

Jan. 8, '36.



Mint of the United States. Philad.
Eighth of January, 1836.

Sir,

I have the honor of sending you en-
closed, two impressions, just taken, in soft
putty, from a trial die of the face of
the new dollar, which Mr. Gobrecht com-
pleted this day. Our anxiety to make
this coin worthy of ~~our~~ the national
mint induced us to have a die first cut
in brass, as a study, and it is ^{from this} ~~from the result~~
^{study} ~~that~~ ^{of these} ~~the~~ ^{imperfect} ~~mistakes~~ ^{have} ~~been~~
^{made}. ~~Though~~ ^{It} ~~is~~ ^{is} not without points of
imperfection ^{which} ~~these~~ ^{it} ~~render~~ ^{open} to
just criticism; but we are aware of them,
and will be that they be corrected in
the steel die, on the execution of which,
with your approbation, we propose to enter
immediately.

I am with very great respect,
Your faithful servant,

R. M. P.

Director

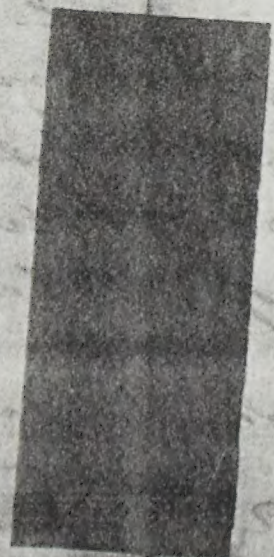
To / The President of the
United States.

1/8/1836

To/ Sec. of Treasury.

Jan. 8, '36.

S



FIRST COBERT VOLL
DIE IN BRASS!

Minist of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 8th, 1836.

Sir,

I send you herewith the impressions taken very imperfectly in fusible metal, from a study die which Mr. Coburn has just finished. We thought it prudent to make our first trial on a brass die, in order that the difficulties and imperfections might be seen, before the permanent die of steel was made. Some points are accordingly found in the die which require correction, and which will be attended in the steel die, on the execution of which we shall enter immediately, if the specimens now presented meet with the approbation of the President and yourself.

The thing priced offers the most distinct impressions, but it is subject to bend, so that the general effect, as it will appear on the coin, is perhaps more accurately presented in the other manner medal.

I shall be grateful for your frank opinion of this attempt. I send specimens one to the President and yourself; as I do not think it wise to offer half-don work to general criticism.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful servant

Wm. Linn Woodbury,
Sec. of Treas.

R. M. P. Denver

3/21/1836

Treasury Department.
March 21st 1836

Sir.

The delay in the Coinage at the Mint, having been the cause, I understand, of some inconvenience to depositors of Bullion &c. I have to request that, so far as practicable, the evil may be remedied, and that, if possible, in future, every deposition of Bullion & Foreign Coins may, in every case, be completed and ready for delivery, if desired, within forty days of the time of its deposition: but, in case any one deposit be so large as to render its coinage impossible within that time, a portion only of it shall be completed and the smaller depositions attended to, if it be a case, where by law ^{you are} ~~you are~~ ^{enforced to} postpone —

If your means, at present, are insufficient to meet, promptly, the wants of the public, I should be glad to be apprized of the fact, and furnished with a statement of the deficiency & an estimate of the cost, &c.

I am, Sir, with much
respect, yr. obt. servt

R. M. Patterson Esq

Saml Woodlee

Secretary Treasury.

~~Received~~
The Mint

3/23/1836

Mint of the U. S.

Phil. March 23d, '36

Sir,

I send you enclosed the Gold dollar pieces which you asked for in your letter of the 18th.

I also send by this mail some Copper pieces struck at the Mint today, on our new press, by Steam. They are the first ever struck by this process in America, and I must consider this day therefore as marking an epoch in our coinage. I should your former pieces struck with this press, at the work-shop, and by hand: these, however, are the first struck by Steam.

We have also been perfectly successful in millling our coins by Steam. For a few days ago 44000 pieces were milled, in 5 hours, by our machine new apparatus, and ~~only~~ only one third part of it was at work.

I received this morning your letter respecting Dr. Barclay, and another letter respecting the coinage which I shall answer tomorrow.

Most respectfully,

Your faithful

Wm. Lewis Woodbury
Asst. Treas.

R. M. P. Director

3/25/1836

Treasury Department
25 March 1836

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure of
acknowledging the receipt of the
gold dollars & specimens of the steam
coinage and inclosed I send you a
draft on the Guard Bank for
the amount, being \$10.09-

Respectfully Yours
Levi Woodbury

Levi M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

3/25/1836

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Mar. 25, 1836.

Sir,

In answer to your letter of the 21st inst.,
respecting the delay of coinage at the Mint,
I have to repeat the acknowledgments, which I
have already frequently made to you, that this
delay is an evil to be justly complained of,
and that I shall never consider the Mint in
the condition which the Country has a right to
expect of it, until ~~at~~ all deposits can be re-
turned in coin within ^{an} ~~the~~ week ^{after} in which they
are made. The means required for effecting
this ^{purpose} ~~object~~ are the increase and improvement
of the chemical and mechanical operations of
the Mint, and the possession of a large de-
posit from the government to enable us to go
on without interruption, and get before-hand
with our work. This latter object is
provided for in the new Mint Law, agreed
upon, as I understand, by the Committee
of Ways and Means, and which it is of
great importance to have acted upon by
Congress without delay. For the former object,
I have asked an appropriation of \$20,000, in
my estimate for the present year, communicated
to you on the 13th ~~of~~ November. But I have

ANOTHER MACHINE
- SEE MAR 23RD
LETTER

not ~~waited~~ for hesitated to proceed with the
work without waiting for the appropriation.
The castings for the new furnaces are made
and in the mill, and the masons have com-
~~menced their work~~ are now engaged at the
brick work. [One of our steam presses
is finished, and was set in operation suc-
cessfully the day before yesterday. A steam
milling machine is also completed; and the
whole of the contemplated improvements will be
wrought forward as rapidly as possible, but
assure you that no one can be more impatient
of delay than myself. Still some delay
must be submitted to ~~will be required~~ before the mill can be put in
full operation; for the best mechanics are
already engaged in executing their contracts for
the machining of the three new mills. —
In the mean while, I think it would be
desirable to increase temporarily our present
force; and, moreover, a careful examination
of our tariff of wages has convinced me that
the ~~wages~~ pay of the men ought to be in-
~~creased~~ raised, as the cost of living has become
greater, and our allowances are below those
made to mechanics in other manufactories in
the city. For these objects, I would respect-
fully ask that, ⁱⁿ the ~~estimate~~ in my estimate —

marked "Compensation to Assistants and Laborers
in the several departments of the Mint...
\$21000," - this sum has increased to \$
26000.

As to your suggestion with regard to
the interruptions in our deliveries caused by the
large deposits, ^{it is unfortunate that} the remedy which you men-
tion will not meet the evil. All these
^{very} large deposits have been made in
Spanish American Dollars, which do not
require refining, and therefore cannot be
gaily postponed to give place to other
deposits.

With great respect,

Your faithful servant,

R. M. Patterson,
(Director.)

To
Hon. Levi Woodbury, &
Sec. of Treasury.

3/28/1836

March 28. 1836

Dear Sir,

Your note of the 26th and the accompanying memorandum of changes in the construction of the press, were duly received — On the proposed changes having reference to the original model, I have to request you to favor me with the loan of the drawings from which the model was made to enable me to come at a satisfactory reply.

Very respectfully &c

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of U.S. Mint

Rufus Tyler

5000m Presses
18 3

4/9/1836

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Apr. 9th, 36.

Sir,

I have the honor to send you herewith two impressions, — (one of which I pray you to give to the President, —) of a second die of Liberty. If you will compare it with the former one, you will not fail to be struck with the great improvement which we have ~~been~~ able to succeed in making. Some artists and men of taste, who made many ^{unfavorable} criticisms on the former, give ~~this~~ their full approbation. I anxiously hope that we may be so happy as to meet also with the approbation of the President and ourselves.

The die for the reverse is not yet commenced, but I send you the drawing, in which we propose to follow, — the pen sketch being that which we prefer. The drawing is true to nature, for it is taken from the eagle itself, — a bird, recently killed, having been perched and placed in the attitude which we had selected. The eagle is flying, and, like the country of which it is the emblem, its course is onward and upward. I propose to follow ~~to follow~~ the

letter of the law as to the legend on the reverse, and to introduce nothing but the words "United States of America" around the margin, and the denomination of the coin. (The absurdity of the shield sticking to the breast of the eagle is avoided, — ~~and~~ the shield, with its thirteen stripes, ^{being} placed with the figure of Liberty, on the face of the coin. The arrows and branches are also removed from the eagle's claws, as contrary to nature and good taste. A constellation of stars, equal to the number of States, is distributed irregularly ^{over} the sky supposed to be seen beyond the eagle, — instead of having thirteen equal stars stiffly arranged in line around the margin.

I wait the judgment of the President and yourself as to the points respectfully referred to you above, and shall be much gratified if they meet your approbation.

And now, Sir, I have another subject to bring to the same ^{decision} ~~tribunal~~. It was my intention, as you know, to begin the new coinage with the dollar: but it has occurred to me that it might be more proper, and more creditable to the government, that it should be begun with the coinage to be made of the

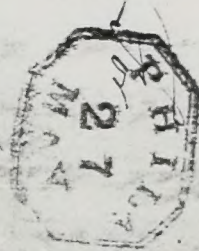
indemnity gold. There is a fitness in this
to which I am sure I need not call your
attention. Besides, it would really be a pity
that six millions of gold worth of gold
coins should be spread over the country with
that thing on the reverse which ^{Countess} many
call ~~an~~ ^{by} ~~country~~, but which nature and art
refuse to recognize. — I wait for your
orders as to the course which I shall per-
sue under these circumstances. If the in-
demnity gold is to be struck with the new
die, the first issue will be delayed three
months — perhaps ^{four} for this is a matter
which cannot be hurried. But the amount
issued before the opening of the next Congress
will not thereby be altered: for the plan-
chets can be prepared ^{in advance}, and when the dies
are ready, our steam presses will strike the
coins with ~~as~~ great rapidity.

With great respect &c

R. M. T. Dent

P.S. Please to return me the drawings,
as we have no copies of them.

HINDS OF WORKMEN FROM 5/27/1836
MORRICK & BARNOW



W. H. & J. H. MORRICK

At West

in State

Washington City

D.C.

[Handwritten signature]

Recd at Washington
May 29.

~~Friday, May 27, '36.~~

From Franklin Park, Cal.

1836
U.S. Mint Phil - Friday 27 Aug

Dear Sir

Another deposit of Gold arrived yesterday and was weighed this morning, a difference amounting to 38 dwt in the same number of drafts, was the Result. viz^t French l^{ts} reduced from Killogrammes

834. 6. 16

Mint l^{ts}.

834. 4. 18

1. 18 = 38 dwt

This deposit with the exception of the two last drafts was weighed on the smaller of Gold Scales. The two last being weighed on the larger. The principal number that is 36 drafts, were weighed to grains. Mr Mafieles placed the above weighing apparatus in my presence & found the large scale incorrect (by a long arm) equal to 1 dwt 12 gr in 30 lbs but altogether so variable as to be entirely uncertain in any results. so that approximation by dwt is the only method of operating until a new scale beam can be made -

Mr Seal called yesterday to say that he was dissatisfied at Merrick & Agnew, and to ask for employment with us. his terms are 128 per week which he says he can have at several places. we know him to be a good workman and gentle in his deportment, and no doubt trust worthy. I promised immediately to report his application to you, and to ask your immediate attention, and reply. there is also another hand whom he recommends as a first rate hand, from friends of his whom

he has induced to come from N York State, there
two hands with he y numerous services in our shop in
expediting the prep work, it is true that he will
be a loss to Merrick & Agnew, but if he will not
stay with them, his services with us are equally
Desirable, we must have an explicit under-
standing with M & A, on this matter if you conclude
to employ him - a communication to Mr Pickfield
will also be necessary ~~if you are not to employ him~~,
as you know I claim no influence or control in
the workshop except as a volunteer - The Gold
Melting ~~Department~~ furnaces & fixtures are completed
and the room in active progress towards perfec-
tion, we have received a number of the stones
for flaying the Silver Crown and have two men en-
gaged in dressing them, the steps will be finished
into the Gold room on Monday and the cement
floor laid that day, so that by the middle of the
week I hope to commence the Gold melting in ear-
nest, it would be exceedingly satisfactory if I had
the ingots moulds made for this room, for from
experiments made to day in casting some silver
ingots I am perfectly justified in saying that
it is imperative to cast them of the large size, to
prevent wastage and facilitate the operations of this
department, but I cannot wait for their
construction and must make out as well as I
can with the old moulds - I have been out

to the Sellers Shop to hurry forward their work
and will continue the arrangements until the get
rid of our Mint work to get a little rest—

A considerable portion of the Branch Mint
machinery has been sent to the Mint for storage
and we have cleared some of our vaults in the
basement for that purpose. Mr Peabody is of opinion
that it will be preserved sufficiently from damp—

I believe we have no further matter of interest
and therefore conclude with the assurance of
the good health of Mrs P and the children
of whom I saw last night and that I am

as ever yours truly and affec^t
Franklin Peabody

To M A Patterson

7/6/1836

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, July 6th, '36.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter respecting the Portrait Lath. which I had requested you, on the 6th Nov. last, to procure for the Mint. - I now renew that request, asking you to have the work put in hand, without delay, and made upon the most favorable terms that you can procure. I hope that the price will not exceed your estimate of 3000 francs; but I do not mean to embarrass you by a limit as to the cost.

Most truly Yours
P. M. Patterson
Director

I will take every care to have the necessary funds in Paris, in good time.

If you ~~shall~~ find the funds now
sent to you insufficient, you will re-
duce the amount of the order, and the
last item may be omitted entirely.

All well. — Love to the family.

Most truly your friend,

P. M. Patterson,
Director, ~~U.S.~~

To
Saml. J. Fisher, Esq.

7/8/1836

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, July 8, 1836.

Sir,

While I was in Washington, the President desired me to make known to your department the quantity of bullion which the client would require from the government, under the late deposit law. — As this must necessarily depend upon the bullion which we may receive from other sources, it is impossible to give any precise estimate, but the following data may serve to give an approximation.

By the work done at the Mint lately, I judge that we may safely promise to coin a million of gold and half a million of silver per month.

[We have now in the vaults uncoined about \$200,000 of gold, and we expect to receive this evening the eighth French remittance, which will probably raise our amount of gold bullion to about half a million.

We have in our vaults, uncoined, about
\$230,000 of Silver bullion.]

Our deposits of gold, during the year
1855 were at the rate of nearly \$200,000
per month; and our deposits of Silver
nearly \$300,000 per month. I

I should judge, therefore, that to keep
the Mint employed, the government
should furnish monthly deposits of
\$800,000 of gold, and \$200,000 of
Silver.

Very respectfully,

R. M. Patterson

Director

W
Hon Levi Woodbury,
Sec. of Treasury.

7/21/1836

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, July 21, 1836.

My dear Sir,

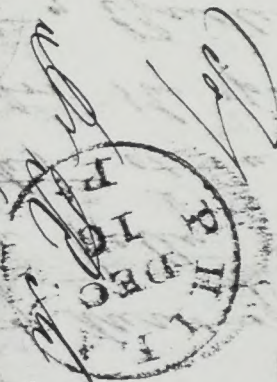
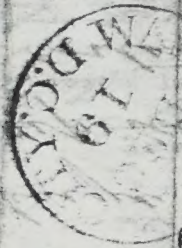
I send you enclosed a bill
(First) of exchange, on Hottinguer & Co. for
4000 francs, on account of the Mint
of the United States.

Out of this amount you will please
to pay, at the proper time, the cost of
the portrait-lathe, which, in my letter
of the 6th inst., I requested you to procure
for the Mint.

You will also oblige me very much
if you will purchase and forward to the
Mint, the following ^{described bars} ~~order~~ of the best die-
steel, such as is used in the French Coinage,
and with regard to which Mr. Peck refers
you to Messrs. Tulier, Travere général
de la Monnaie.

75 ^K	200 lbs.	in bars	2 inches square.	5.08	Centims.
75 ^K	200	"	1 ³ / ₄ " "	5.08	"
37 ¹ / ₂ ^K	100	"	1 ¹ / ₂ " "	4.45	"
37 ¹ / ₂ ^K	100	"	1 ¹ / ₂ " "	3.87	"
37 ¹ / ₂ ^K	100	"	1 ³ / ₈ " "	3.5	"

12/16/1836



*Washington
and
Philadelphia*

Washington and Philadelphia

Washington and Philadelphia

Washington and Philadelphia

Phil Friday Dec 16 1836

Dear Sir

I have enclosed, with samples
sent according to your directions to the
Secretary of the Treasury. 3 kinds of Coin
N^o 1 being the Billoo, Quality 200 millions,
simply cleaned with dilute Sulphuric Acid
N^o 2, Made of copper alone

N^o 3 Counterfeit of the first. with an
amalgam of Silver simply rubbed on the
surface of N^o 2.

[I wrote you a hurried letter this
morning by Mr Taylor, and now I am now-
leisurely to you. That new dies were executed
with all necessary enthusiasm by Messrs Kneass
and Gobrecht, and hardened & used by Mr Peck
at complete for striking this morning, when the
pieces were struck, and finally. I have written
to the Sec^y of Treasury and enclosed samples
to him and yourself, and have only to add
that I hope you may receive them in due
course of Mail expedition.]

We have as you may recollect. Samples
of the piece de cloche or Brown. if you need

need them in your discussions on the coin
subject. let me know and they shall be sent
to you.

we go on as usual at the Mint, the Gold is
rapidly decreasing as the paying goes on, and
very little coming in so that although the dep^t
y pigs containing Gold are considerable in
number the amount contained is not of
great moment, it is probable that by Wed^d
y next week ^{it} will find store up.

our drain is finished and passed over.
As that we have no further trouble from
the waters.

Merricks will have finished the Milling
Machines in a few days and wishes to know
if they are to be sent here. (They are for the
Branch at N^w Orleans).

The change in the weight of the cent is
perhaps better at the rate last stated by you
than lighter, as the temptation to counterfeit will
be less. we may be inundated by a Spanish
fabric from Panama if too much temptation
is held out, but this remark is more applicable
to the Billon from the difficulty of knowing
the genuine from the Spanish.

The Governor this morning made a
kind of attempt to force me to receive a
deposit of Base stuff from some manufacturing
jeweller. evidently from want of moral
courage to refuse. which as I was perfectly
willing to assume, all responsibility was con-
ceded. I was then more determined on this
point from the circumstances of being much
embarrassed several days past in the waiting
room, and subjected to much risk of loss
from the presence of some base metal kept
of a like character. I know that it is not
nor cannot be the duty of Mint officers to make
the Mint of the U States a petty refinery for
the jewellers & Silver Smiths, at an expense much
greater than is charged for the operation, & always
embarrassing the deposits of Bullion with which
it may come in contact.

Mrs Patterson & family are all well
very much better as you know by word
of mouth from Mr Taylor

We shall have something to say about
Museum business in our next

Yours ever A. P. Peck

12/24/36



Dec 12

Dr W. A. Patterson
Albion, N. Y.
Washington
D. C.

Dear Doctor

Philad^a Dec 24th 36

Your letter post marked 22nd I found this morning on my table. I have looked carefully over the Bill and find nothing to remark on, it is in every point satisfactory, and I hope on this is a law.

We have melted all the half & other dollars in the Mint. The Chip corner is fully supplied with as many planchets as will occupy both presses until the end of the year. The gold is all in ingots, except always those pigs containing more silver than is fitting for the planching process.

All our grains have been melted, all our waste has been ground and washed, so that we are nearer to closing our accounts than we have yet been.

The fine silver from the refinery was melted yesterday and today and looks better than any that we have done. I shall be disappointed if it does not run away priced 996 mil^{ls}.

Our Rolling Screen was put up in its place today, we shall have a trial of it on Tuesday, Monday being claimed as a holy day by the men.

I have consulted with Mr Gobrecht and advised him to proceed immediately with the reduction of the Mendenhall for the N. & S. dies - to which he agrees.

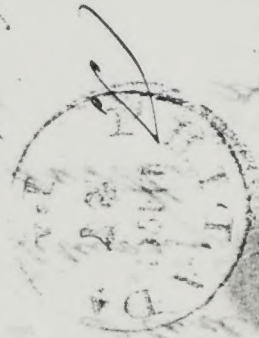
There is nothing else to communicate except that I have advised Jay Supac jun^r to write immediately to you, making application for the place of Assayer in the Branch at N. Orleans, my observations on his knowledge is most decidedly favorable.

I have also made some

enquiries relative to Mr Borth, Sec^y at the
institute, and have heard him lecture, the res=
ults of which, are decidedly favorable, his scien=
tific attainments, are of a high order, but I have
not yet closed my enquiries, and if I do
not see you in three days will write more fully.
Compertant is talking on our side &
Citian on the other so that I must close or
mix you a Mint & Museum julep
to hosts

Yours J. Peale

12/27/1836



Wm M. de Patience

Director of the Mint

Washington City

W.C.

Tuesday Dec 27/36.

My dear Doct.

I can scarcely account for the delay of yours, enclosing a letter to Mr Patterson which was received yesterday morning, it was written I think on Thursday, the delay however intervened in the answers to which Mr Dubois set himself down immediately, and despatched by the express mail. The Governor talked of writing to Mr Benton relative to the fraud in the small coin (I allude to the seniorage) but I let him blow off the steam in an argument with me and I presume that will satisfy him. for the present, it is from such men that both you & all of us have annoyances to expect, but no matter, the bawling of doves cannot effect the workers of the mine.

I took your letter to Mr Patterson immediately, and report all well,

Miss Davis' "Johnny" is now all she thinks
probably the cheapest.

Our men have things pretty much
their own way. They wanted Monday for
their Christmas. we of course had to give.
(a dismal day we had by the by) - to day
we are at work again. My rolling screw
is now in its place waiting for pulleys,
something must wait where mechanics
are employed. we are used to it.

The Milling machines at Merriett &
Agnew are finished, every way a credit-
able job. They wait for your inspection
only - all other matters are proceeding as
usual.

To day I hope your bill will be before
congress for final operations. Heaven grant
it may pass unimpaired. So many
false matters incomprehensible to those
who are not familiar with the details of
mint transactions are there in an
unobtrusive form. That would be fatallly
meddled with if touched at all, and
there are so many profound people in
the world, who know every thing but

their own ignorance; that their inter-
ference would be only equalled in
its effects, by the execution of "Blind horses
in a China Shop."

Let me ask you about the weights
for our use, if nothing is yet done would
not an order from the Treasury dep^t ex-
pedite matters. I saw Foster by
accident yesterday and was forcibly
reminded of our wants in this matter.

A favorable opportunity occurred of writing
to London by Mr Playfarrow I took ad-
vantage of his departure to send several
articles to the Royal Mint among the rest
our bill. We may want another with you
have the kindness to send me another a
copy—

I can think of nothing else at this
moment and am consequently—

Yours affly &c

Francis Pickens,

1/8/1837

can be struck by hand - all the same - wait
The prep is ready - for fear that these facts may
have passed from your memory - they are thus briefly
noticed.

The allowance for wastage in
the chief corner dept. certainly was arranged with
his own consent long ago. But the same stupid
jealousy that so often has troubled ^{us} again interferes -

No 12

D

Dr H. L. Patterson

Director of the Mint

Washington City

D.C.

The family are all well, and the new year
comes in, in favorable omen that you may
rejoice in many of them is the same
with yours

Wm. Allen Peabody

Sunday Jan 5 1837.

Dear Sir.

We need not say how much we regretted
the necessity of passing into another year with
the stupid old vulgar practices upon our books,
instead of that beautiful system, which the new
laws provide, besides the many ^{other} beautiful but
unobtrusive provisions. But no matter it is
worth waiting ^{for} seven years, and I trust the
delay will be but for a few days. I at least
must be earnest in this matter, for my labours
in our department at least will be increased, to
~~with~~ our greatest amount of Silver Bullion
is Mex^o \$, whose average quality, (though they
vary much according to the mint from which
they come,) is .896 millimes. of course ^{side} out-
of our allowance of 3 m^{ts}, and consequently
requiring five silver to be kept on hand
to bring them up to Standard (900) each
pot of course must be calculated, well, I
should willingly calculate 100 pots per day
our new pots ~~including~~ 8000 dolls, makes
it no great job after all,

My new sifting apparatus (rolling screen)

is absolutely perfect, giving results that I did not anticipate, but let me describe the operation. The mill grinds the crusibles & what not, the man who attends, put the coarsely pulverized matter at once into the hopper of the rolling screen which being moved by power is always ready in a few minutes the whole is separated into 6 lots of different qualities the furthest or extreme drawer is then emptied of its coarse lumps & grains of silver which are put on the mill are ground in a few minutes, and again passed into the screen, which separates the grains perfectly clean, the next drawer is then served in the same manner when the grains of metal are separated in like manner, and so we proceed until all the stuff has been passed through the finest sieve, of course all grains of metal larger than coarse flour are collected and melted, and results in better looking metal than we have ever seen from grains, so much improved that Mr. Welfeldt, of ayer mistook it, in passing through the melting room for precipitated silver by the new process - this

unexpected result. I attribute firstly to the
now perfect pulverization of the stone, in the
next to the superior cleanliness of the grains
from the operation of the screen. The oxide of iron
from the pots &c &c being ground to the finest
quality. I have been so much pleased
with the Machine that I could not help oc-
cupying nearly all my sheet in these details,
I know your interest in all that relates to im-
provements or I should make a more detailed
apology than these few lines imply. Finally I
am confident that we shall find an immense
saving to the Government from these machines
when our wastage of stone is to be made up — but
I am not yet done in this dept —

We are as busy as popples in getting up
every thing for the close of the year. and will
I hope be at the end in a few days —

[For want of better argument, our new design has
been criticized for its medallic appearance, this
is occasioned by the smooth edge had we not
better make, or rather finish the parts of the
"violet base" and determine on the ornament
that shall surround the edge, the pieces

7/25/37

L. R. Mr. Patterson

Dr. W. Mr. Patterson
Director of the Mint

When we learn with surprise that the patterns with which we are coining the large coins are taken from our property, we have been taken by the officers of your mint with out our knowledge or leave to another foundry to have castings made. We cannot believe that this transaction has had your sanction and deem it our duty to state that we have forbid the use until we are compensated for the use of them. The patterns were obtained from us under the provisions of the act for the purpose of making alterations of the same. We have been under the impression that the patterns were obtained from us under the provisions of the act for the purpose of making alterations of the same. We have been under the impression that the patterns were obtained from us under the provisions of the act for the purpose of making alterations of the same.

Merritt & Agnew
Attorneys at Law
San Francisco July 25 1837

7/25/1837

U. S. Mint, July 25, 1837.

Gentlemen, I have been much surprised
by the receipt of your note of this morn-
ing.

You state that patterns of the large
coinage press "were" obtained from you under
the specious pretence of making some
alterations "in them." I must take the
~~liberty of contradicting this statement.~~
~~There was no fr~~ If such an impres-
sion has been given to you, I must
take the liberty of saying that you have
been misinformed. There is no pretence
in the case. Important alterations have
been made in the patterns.

The real ground of ~~your~~ your com-
plaint, however, seems to be that the
casters have been ordered at "another
foundry." This circumstance was ex-
plained to you by Mr. Eckfeldt on
Friday, when he stated that your foundry
was not known to be in operation.
Indeed it is only from the spirit of
your note that I infer that it is
now at work. If it had
been known to be so, and you would

and as soon
have undertaken to do the work as well,
as Mr. Baldwin, (as I presume you
would,) there could have been no
reason why we should give the latter
^{circumstances,} the work would have been given to you.
any preference, and, ~~under~~ in the view of other

On the question of the property in these
patterns, I must state that I have
always considered it to be in us; but
this is not a point which I am now
prepared to maintain, as it would require
an investigation of papers and customs
for which I have not time at present.
Nor is it a question which would be
of importance if there ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~any~~ ^{any} ~~kind~~ ^{kind} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~feeling~~ ^{feeling} ~~ex-~~ ^{ex-} ~~isted~~ ^{isted} ~~between~~ ^{between} us that kind feeling of
which I feel conscious myself, and
which makes me the more regret the
angry tone of your note.

P. M. Patterson
Duch.

To
Mr. M. M. & Agnes